



U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney
Western District of New York

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PRESS RELEASE

October 1, 2004

RE: UNITED STATES v. DOUNG CAM TRAN

United States Attorney Michael A. Battle announced today the conviction of **DOUNG CAM TRAN**, age 46, of Markham, Ontario, Canada, with Importation of Methamphetamine and Possession with Intent to Distribute Methamphetamine, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 952(a) and 841(a)(1), carrying a mandatory minimum penalty of 10 years and a maximum of life, a fine of \$4,000, 000.00, or both. Under the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, the defendant is facing imprisonment of 235 months up to 295 months.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Frederick J. Platek, who handled the case, stated that the defendant traveled from Canada driving a rental car and attempted entry at the Peace Bridge Port of Entry Buffalo, New York where he was questioned at primary inspection and referred to secondary inspection. Inspectors at secondary inspection were made aware by agents of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency that certain organizations secrete drugs in the roof lining of sports utility vehicles. A subsequent search of the roof lining by inspectors resulted in the seizure of approximately 43,000 Ecstasy tablets. The total street sale value of the tablets is approximately \$645,000.

The conviction was the culmination of an investigation on the part of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement under the direction of Special Agent-in-Charge Peter J. Smith.

Sentencing is scheduled for January 25, 2005, in front of Hon. Richard J. Arcara, Chief, United States District Judge.

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